

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

A7 1. (original) A telephone network comprising a telephone switching centre coupled to a subscriber line, and an enhanced service processing apparatus,

the switching centre having event detection means for recording the occurrence of a predetermined event associated with the subscriber line, and call processing means responsive to an attempt to establish or terminate a call connection via the subscriber line to selectively either:

notify the enhanced service processing apparatus of that attempt, or
establish or terminate said call connection without such notification;

according to whether occurrence of the predetermined event has been recorded by the detection means, the enhanced service processing apparatus having means responsive to such notification to send switching control commands to the telephone switching centre.

2. (original) A network according to claim 1, wherein the switching centre includes processing means including flag means, the processing means having means responsive to notification of said predetermined event to change the state of said flag means and, having means to determine, in dependence on the state of the flag means,

whether to notify the enhanced service processing apparatus of an attempt to establish or terminate a call connection via said subscriber line.

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3. (previously amended) A network according to claim 1, including event detecting means for detecting a predetermined event and notifying the switching centre of an occurrence of said event.

4. (original) A network according to claim 2, wherein the processing means includes a plurality of flag means associated with respective predetermined events, the processing means having means to change the state of the associated flag means in response to notification of one of said predetermined events and selection means controlled in dependence on the states of the flag means, together with the flag means state information, the selection means being arranged to select whether to notify the enhanced service processing apparatus of an attempt to establish or terminate a call connection via said subscriber line, and to perform such notification if so selected.

5. (original) A network according to claim 4, wherein the enhanced service processing apparatus has means to control the switching centre in dependence on said flag state information.

6. (previously amended) A network according to claim 3, wherein the event detecting means comprises a voice mail system, the event or one of the events comprises storing of voice mail for the subscriber of said subscriber line.

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7. (previously amended) A network according to claim 3, wherein the event detecting means comprises a call charging system and the event or one of the events comprises the call charge for the subscriber of said subscriber line exceeding a threshold value.

8. (currently amended) A method of processing calls in a telephone network comprising: [[-]]

recording the occurrences of one or more predetermined events at a telephone switching centre, said events being associated with a subscriber line connected to the switching centre;

detecting attempts to establish or terminate calls via the subscriber line;

determining whether a record of the occurrence of one or more of said predetermined events exists at the switching centre; and

if it is determined that a record of the occurrence of one or more of said predetermined events exists at the switching centre: [[-]]

notifying an enhanced service processing apparatus of the attempt;

generating switching control commands at the enhanced service processing apparatus; and

communicating said commands to the switching centre to control the establishment or termination of said call; but

if it is determined that no record of the occurrence of one or more of said predetermined events currently exists at the switching centre:[[-]]

A7 establishing or terminating the call using only the switching functions of the switching centre.

9. (original) A method according to claim 8, wherein said event comprises storing of voice mail.

10. (original) A method according to claim 8, wherein said event comprises the exceeding of a threshold value by a cumulative parameter relating to usage of the telephone system.

11. (previously amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein the recording of the occurrence of one or more of the said events takes the form of erasure or cancellation of the recording of another of the said events having occurred previously, such that the enhanced service processing apparatus is not then notified of further call attempts until a further occurrence of the said previously-occurring event.

12. (new) A telephone network comprising:
a telephone switching center coupled to a subscriber line; and

an enhanced service processing apparatus;

the switching center having an event detector for recording an occurrence of a predetermined event associated with the subscriber line, and a call processor responsive to an attempt to establish or terminate a call connection via the subscriber line to select one of the following processing operations without requiring the switching center to be able to distinguish between individual call types:

notify the enhanced service processing apparatus of that attempt when the occurrence of the predetermined event has been recorded by the detector, the enhanced service processing apparatus sending switching control commands to the telephone switching center in response to such notification; or

establish or terminate said call connection without such notification when the occurrence of the predetermined event has not been recorded by the detector.

13. (new) A method of processing calls in a telephone network comprising:

recording the occurrences of one or more predetermined events at a telephone switching center, said events being associated with a subscriber line connected to the switching center;

detecting attempts to establish or terminate calls via the subscriber line;

determining whether a record of the occurrence of one or more of said predetermined events exists at the switching center without distinguishing between individual call types; and

if it is determined that a record of the occurrence of one or more of said predetermined events exists at the switching center:

A7 notifying an enhanced service processing apparatus of the attempt;

generating switching control commands at the enhanced service

processing apparatus; and

communicating said commands to the switching center to control the establishment or termination of said call; but

if it is determined that no record of the occurrence of one or more of said predetermined events currently exists at the switching center:

establishing or terminating the call using only the switching

functions of the switching center.
